

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Roberto RESTA  
 Ser. No.: 09/231,296  
 Filed: January 15, 1999  
 For: Quilting machine with stitchers removed by...

) Group Art Unit:  
 ) Examiner:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3  
 JAN 10 2000  
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington D.C. 20231 USA

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97

Sir:

Applicant herewith encloses copies of the prior art references which have been cited in the European Search Report issued for the counterpart European Patent Application which contains subject matter equivalent to that of the present application. The references submitted herewith for consideration are listed on the attached form PTO-1449.

A copy of the European Search Report (in English) is herewith provided which indicates the degree of relevancy found by the European Patent Office of each reference, so as to comply with the requirements of 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3), according to the Commissioner's Comment 68, 1135 Off. gaz. Pat. Office 13,20 (Feb. 4, 1992), and as set forth in MPEP 609 part A(3).

A copy of the Annex to the European Search Report is also enclosed, which indicates the patent family members of the patent documents cited in the Search Report.

In order to comply with the requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97(c) in the event that a first Office Action has been mailed before the present information disclosure statement (IDS) is filed, the undersigned herewith states in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in the present IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present IDS.

Respectfully submitted,

GUIDO MODIANO (Reg. No. 19,928)  
 Agent for the Applicant

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encl.: -Form PTO-1449.  
 -Copy of European Search Report.  
 -Cited references.

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